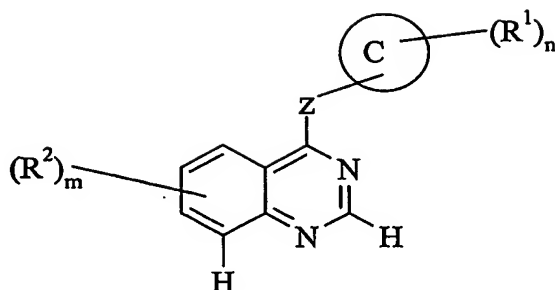


CLAIMS:

1. A compound of the formula I:



(I)

wherein:

ring C is an 8, 9, 10, 12 or 13-membered bicyclic or tricyclic moiety which moiety may be saturated or unsaturated, which may be aromatic or non-aromatic, and which optionally may contain 1-3 heteroatoms selected independently from O, N and S;

Z is -O-, -NH- or -S-;

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

m is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

R^2 represents hydrogen, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy, C_{1-3} alkylsulphanyl, $-NR^3R^4$ (wherein R^3 and R^4 , which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl), or R^5X^1 - (wherein X^1 represents a direct bond, -O-, -CH₂-, -OC(O)-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, $-NR^6C(O)$ -, $-C(O)NR^7$ -, $-SO_2NR^8$ -, $-NR^9SO_2$ - or $-NR^{10}$ - (wherein R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 and R^{10} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy C_{2-3} alkyl), and R^5 is selected from one of the following twenty-two groups:

1) hydrogen, oxiranyl C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{1-5} alkyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo and amino;

2) C_{1-5} alkyl $X^2C(O)R^{11}$ (wherein X^2 represents -O- or $-NR^{12}$ - (in which R^{12} represents hydrogen, C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy C_{2-3} alkyl) and R^{11} represents C_{1-3} alkyl, $-NR^{13}R^{14}$ or $-OR^{15}$ (wherein R^{13} , R^{14} and R^{15} which may be the same or different each represents hydrogen, C_{1-5} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy C_{2-3} alkyl));

3) C_{1-5} alkyl X^3R^{16} (wherein X^3 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -OC(O)-, $-NR^{17}C(O)$ -, $-C(O)NR^{18}$ -, $-SO_2NR^{19}$ -, $-NR^{20}SO_2$ - or $-NR^{21}$ - (wherein R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} and R^{21} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkoxy C_{2-3} alkyl) and R^{16} represents

hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl or a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which C₁₋₃alkyl group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno and C₁₋₄alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C₁₋

- 5 4cyanoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkoxyC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄aminoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkylamino, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkoxy, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkoxy and a group $-(O)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_g ringD$ (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected
10 independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C₁₋₄alkyl));

4) C₁₋₅alkylX⁴C₁₋₅alkylX⁵R²² (wherein X⁴ and X⁵ which may be the same or different are each -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -NR²³C(O)-, -C(O)NR²⁴-, -SO₂NR²⁵-, -NR²⁶SO₂- or -NR²⁷- (wherein R²³, R²⁴, R²⁵, R²⁶ and R²⁷ each independently represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋

- 15 3alkyl) and R²² represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl);

5) R²⁸ (wherein R²⁸ is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C₁₋4cyanoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkoxyC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋

- 20 4alkylsulphonylC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄aminoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkylamino, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkoxy, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkoxy and a group $-(O)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_g ringD$ (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents
25 selected from C₁₋₄alkyl));

6) C₁₋₅alkylR²⁸ (wherein R²⁸ is as defined herein);

7) C₂₋₅alkenylR²⁸ (wherein R²⁸ is as defined herein);

8) C₂₋₅alkynylR²⁸ (wherein R²⁸ is as defined herein);

- 9) R²⁹ (wherein R²⁹ represents a pyridone group, a phenyl group or a 5-6-membered aromatic
30 heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, which pyridone, phenyl or aromatic heterocyclic group may carry up to 5 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, amino, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋4aminoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkylamino, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkoxy, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, -

- C(O)NR³⁰R³¹, -NR³²C(O)R³³ (wherein R³⁰, R³¹, R³² and R³³, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, C₁₋₄alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl) and a group $-(O)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_gringD$ (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which
- 5 cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C₁₋₄alkyl));
- 10) C₁₋₅alkylR²⁹ (wherein R²⁹ is as defined herein);
- 11) C₂₋₅alkenylR²⁹ (wherein R²⁹ is as defined herein);
- 12) C₂₋₅alkynylR²⁹ (wherein R²⁹ is as defined herein);
- 13) C₁₋₅alkylX⁶R²⁹ (wherein X⁶ represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -NR³⁴C(O)-, -C(O)NR³⁵-, -
- 10 SO₂NR³⁶-, -NR³⁷SO₂- or -NR³⁸- (wherein R³⁴, R³⁵, R³⁶, R³⁷ and R³⁸ each independently represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl) and R²⁹ is as defined herein);
- 14) C₂₋₅alkenylX⁷R²⁹ (wherein X⁷ represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -NR³⁹C(O)-, -C(O)NR⁴⁰-, -SO₂NR⁴¹-, -NR⁴²SO₂- or -NR⁴³- (wherein R³⁹, R⁴⁰, R⁴¹, R⁴² and R⁴³ each independently represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl) and R²⁹ is as defined herein);
- 15 15) C₂₋₅alkynylX⁸R²⁹ (wherein X⁸ represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -NR⁴⁴C(O)-, -C(O)NR⁴⁵-, -SO₂NR⁴⁶-, -NR⁴⁷SO₂- or -NR⁴⁸- (wherein R⁴⁴, R⁴⁵, R⁴⁶, R⁴⁷ and R⁴⁸ each independently represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl) and R²⁹ is as defined herein);
- 16) C₁₋₄alkylX⁹C₁₋₄alkylR²⁹ (wherein X⁹ represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -NR⁴⁹C(O)-, -C(O)NR⁵⁰-, -SO₂NR⁵¹-, -NR⁵²SO₂- or -NR⁵³- (wherein R⁴⁹, R⁵⁰, R⁵¹, R⁵² and R⁵³ each
- 20 independently represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl) and R²⁹ is as defined herein);
- 17) C₁₋₄alkylX⁹C₁₋₄alkylR²⁸ (wherein X⁹ and R²⁸ are as defined herein);
- 18) C₂₋₅alkenyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro, amino, C₁₋₄alkylamino, N,N-di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino,
- 25 aminosulphonyl, N-C₁₋₄alkylaminosulphonyl and N,N-di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminosulphonyl;
- 19) C₂₋₅alkynyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro, amino, C₁₋₄alkylamino, N,N-di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, aminosulphonyl, N-C₁₋₄alkylaminosulphonyl and N,N-di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminosulphonyl;
- 20) C₂₋₅alkenylX⁹C₁₋₄alkylR²⁸ (wherein X⁹ and R²⁸ are as defined herein);
- 30 21) C₂₋₅alkynylX⁹C₁₋₄alkylR²⁸ (wherein X⁹ and R²⁸ are as defined herein); and
- 22) C₁₋₄alkylR⁵⁴(C₁₋₄alkyl)_q(X⁹)_rR⁵⁵ (wherein X⁹ is as defined herein, q is 0 or 1, r is 0 or 1, and R⁵⁴ and R⁵⁵ are each independently selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl and a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected

- independently from O, S and N, which C₁₋₃alkyl group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno and C₁₋₄alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C₁₋₄cyanoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkoxyC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄aminoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkylamino, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkoxy, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkoxy and a group $-(O)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_g ringD$ (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C₁₋₄alkyl), with
- the proviso that R⁵⁴ cannot be hydrogen);
- and additionally wherein any C₁₋₅alkyl, C₂₋₅alkenyl or C₂₋₅alkynyl group in R⁵X¹- which is linked to X¹ may bear one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno and amino); R¹ represents hydrogen, oxo, halogeno, hydroxy, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxymethyl, C₁₋₄alkanoyl, C₁₋₄haloalkyl, cyano, amino, C₂₋₅alkenyl, C₂₋₅alkynyl, C₁₋₃alkanoyloxy, nitro, C₁₋₄alkanoylamino, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphanyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphinyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonyl, carbamoyl, N-C₁₋₄alkylcarbamoyl, N,N-di(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoyl, aminosulphonyl, N-C₁₋₄alkylaminosulphonyl, N,N-di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminosulphonyl, N-(C₁₋₄alkylsulphonyl)amino, N-(C₁₋₄alkylsulphonyl)-N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, N,N-di(C₁₋₄alkylsulphonyl)amino, a C₃₋₇alkylene chain joined to two ring C carbon atoms, C₁₋₄alkanoylaminoC₁₋₄alkyl, carboxy or a group R⁵⁶X¹⁰ (wherein X¹⁰ represents a direct bond, -O-, -CH₂-, -OC(O)-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -NR⁵⁷C(O)-, -C(O)NR⁵⁸-, -SO₂NR⁵⁹-, -NR⁶⁰SO₂- or -NR⁶¹- (wherein R⁵⁷, R⁵⁸, R⁵⁹, R⁶⁰ and R⁶¹ each independently represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl), and R⁵⁶ is selected from one of the following twenty-two groups:
- 1) hydrogen, oxiranylC₁₋₄alkyl or C₁₋₅alkyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo and amino;
 - 2) C₁₋₅alkylX¹¹C(O)R⁶² (wherein X¹¹ represents -O- or -NR⁶³- (in which R⁶³ represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl) and R⁶² represents C₁₋₃alkyl, -NR⁶⁴R⁶⁵ or -OR⁶⁶ (wherein R⁶⁴, R⁶⁵ and R⁶⁶ which may be the same or different each represents hydrogen, C₁₋₅alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl));
 - 3) C₁₋₅alkylX¹²R⁶⁷ (wherein X¹² represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -OC(O)-, -NR⁶⁸C(O)-, -C(O)NR⁶⁹-, -SO₂NR⁷⁰-, -NR⁷¹SO₂- or -NR⁷²- (wherein R⁶⁸, R⁶⁹, R⁷⁰, R⁷¹ and R⁷² each independently represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl) and R⁶⁷ represents

hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl or a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which C₁₋₃alkyl group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno and C₁₋₄alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C₁₋

- 5 4cyanoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkoxyC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄aminoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkylamino, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkoxy, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkoxy and a group $-(O)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_g ringD$ (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C₁₋₄alkyl));

4) C₁₋₅alkylX¹³C₁₋₅alkylX¹⁴R⁷³ (wherein X¹³ and X¹⁴ which may be the same or different are each -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -NR⁷⁴C(O)-, -C(O)NR⁷⁵-, -SO₂NR⁷⁶-, -NR⁷⁷SO₂- or -NR⁷⁸- (wherein R⁷⁴, R⁷⁵, R⁷⁶, R⁷⁷ and R⁷⁸ each independently represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋

- 15 3alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl) and R⁷³ represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl);

5) R⁷⁹ (wherein R⁷⁹ is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C₁₋4cyanoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkoxyC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋

- 20 4alkylsulphonylC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄aminoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkylamino, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkoxy, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkoxy and a group $-(O)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_g ringD$ (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C₁₋₄alkyl));

6) C₁₋₅alkylR⁷⁹ (wherein R⁷⁹ is as defined herein);

7) C₂₋₅alkenylR⁷⁹ (wherein R⁷⁹ is as defined herein);

8) C₂₋₅alkynylR⁷⁹ (wherein R⁷⁹ is as defined herein);

- 9) R⁸⁰ (wherein R⁸⁰ represents a pyridone group, a phenyl group or a 5-6-membered aromatic heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, which pyridone, phenyl or aromatic heterocyclic group may carry up to 5 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, amino, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋4aminoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkylamino, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkoxy, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, -
- 30

- C(O)NR⁸¹R⁸², -NR⁸³C(O)R⁸⁴ (wherein R⁸¹, R⁸², R⁸³ and R⁸⁴, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, C₁₋₄alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl) and a group $-(O)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_gringD$ (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which
- 5 cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C₁₋₄alkyl));
- 10) C₁₋₅alkylR⁸⁰ (wherein R⁸⁰ is as defined herein);
- 11) C₂₋₅alkenylR⁸⁰ (wherein R⁸⁰ is as defined herein);
- 12) C₂₋₅alkynylR⁸⁰ (wherein R⁸⁰ is as defined herein);
- 13) C₁₋₅alkylX¹⁵R⁸⁰ (wherein X¹⁵ represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -NR⁸⁵C(O)-, -C(O)NR⁸⁶-, -
- 10 SO₂NR⁸⁷-, -NR⁸⁸SO₂- or -NR⁸⁹- (wherein R⁸⁵, R⁸⁶, R⁸⁷, R⁸⁸ and R⁸⁹ each independently represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl) and R⁸⁰ is as defined herein);
- 14) C₂₋₅alkenylX¹⁶R⁸⁰ (wherein X¹⁶ represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -NR⁹⁰C(O)-, -C(O)NR⁹¹-, -SO₂NR⁹²-, -NR⁹³SO₂- or -NR⁹⁴- (wherein R⁹⁰, R⁹¹, R⁹², R⁹³ and R⁹⁴ each independently represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl) and R⁸⁰ is as defined herein);
- 15) 15) C₂₋₅alkynylX¹⁷R⁸⁰ (wherein X¹⁷ represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -NR⁹⁵C(O)-, -C(O)NR⁹⁶-, -SO₂NR⁹⁷-, -NR⁹⁸SO₂- or -NR⁹⁹- (wherein R⁹⁵, R⁹⁶, R⁹⁷, R⁹⁸ and R⁹⁹ each independently represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl) and R⁸⁰ is as defined herein);
- 16) C₁₋₄alkylX¹⁸C₁₋₄alkylR⁸⁰ (wherein X¹⁸ represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -NR¹⁰⁰C(O)-, -C(O)NR¹⁰¹-, -SO₂NR¹⁰²-, -NR¹⁰³SO₂- or -NR¹⁰⁴- (wherein R¹⁰⁰, R¹⁰¹, R¹⁰², R¹⁰³ and R¹⁰⁴ each
- 20 independently represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl) and R⁸⁰ is as defined herein);
- 17) C₁₋₄alkylX¹⁸C₁₋₄alkylR⁷⁹ (wherein X¹⁸ and R⁷⁹ are as defined herein);
- 18) C₂₋₅alkenyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro, amino, C₁₋₄alkylamino, N,N-di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino,
- 25 aminosulphonyl, N-C₁₋₄alkylaminosulphonyl and N,N-di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminosulphonyl;
- 19) C₂₋₅alkynyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro, amino, C₁₋₄alkylamino, N,N-di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, aminosulphonyl, N-C₁₋₄alkylaminosulphonyl and N,N-di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminosulphonyl;
- 20) C₂₋₅alkenylX¹⁸C₁₋₄alkylR⁷⁹ (wherein X¹⁸ and R⁷⁹ are as defined herein);
- 30 21) C₂₋₅alkynylX¹⁸C₁₋₄alkylR⁷⁹ (wherein X¹⁸ and R⁷⁹ are as defined herein); and
- 22) C₁₋₄alkylR¹⁰⁵(C₁₋₄alkyl)_x(X¹⁸)_yR¹⁰⁶ (wherein X¹⁸ is as defined herein, x is 0 or 1, y is 0 or 1, and R¹⁰⁵ and R¹⁰⁶ are each independently selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl and a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected

independently from O, S and N, which C₁₋₃alkyl group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno and C₁₋₄alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C₁₋₄cyanoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkoxyC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋

- 5 ₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄aminoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkylamino, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkoxy, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkoxy and a group $-(O)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_gringD$ (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C₁₋₄alkyl) with
10 the proviso that R¹⁰⁵ cannot be hydrogen);

and additionally wherein any C₁₋₅alkyl, C₂₋₅alkenyl or C₂₋₅alkynyl group in R⁵⁶X¹⁰- which is linked to X¹⁰ may bear one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno and amino); with the proviso that one or more R¹ and/or one or more R² are selected from Q¹X¹- wherein X¹ is as defined herein and Q¹ is selected from one of the following groups:

- 15 1) C₁₋₄alkyl-Q¹³-C(O)-C₁₋₄alkyl-Q¹⁴ wherein Q¹³ is C₁₋₃alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl and a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which C₁₋₃alkyl group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno and C₁₋₄alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or may
20 bear 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from C₂₋₅alkenyl, C₂₋₅alkynyl, C₁₋₆fluoroalkyl, C₁₋₆alkanoyl, C₁₋₆alkanoylC₁₋₆alkyl, aminoC₁₋₆alkanoyl, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₆alkanoyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkanoyl, C₁₋₆fluoroalkanoyl, carbamoyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbamoyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoyl, carbamoylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbamoylC₁₋₆alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkylsulphonyl, C₁₋₆fluoroalkylsulphonyl, oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C₁₋
25 ₄cyanoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkoxyC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄aminoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkylamino, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkoxy, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkoxy and a group $-(O)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_gringD$ (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with
30 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C₁₋₄alkyl), and Q¹⁴ is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group containing at least one nitrogen atom and optionally containing a further nitrogen atom wherein Q¹⁴ is linked to C₁₋₆alkanoyl through a nitrogen

- atom and wherein Q^{14} optionally bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from C_{2-5} alkenyl, C_{2-5} alkynyl, C_{1-6} fluoroalkyl, C_{1-6} alkanoyl, C_{1-6} alkanoyl C_{1-6} alkyl, amino C_{1-6} alkanoyl, C_{1-4} alkylamino C_{1-6} alkanoyl, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkanoyl, C_{1-6} fluoroalkanoyl, carbamoyl, C_{1-4} alkylcarbamoyl, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)carbamoyl, carbamoyl C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkylcarbamoyl C_{1-6} alkyl, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)carbamoyl C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-6} fluoroalkylsulphonyl, oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4} cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkoxy C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkylsulphonyl C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4} aminoalkyl, C_{1-4} alkylamino, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, C_{1-4} alkylamino C_{1-4} alkyl, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkylamino C_{1-4} alkoxy, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino C_{1-4} alkoxy and a group $-(-O-)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_g ringD$ (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4} alkyl);
- 2) Q^2 (wherein Q^2 is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears at least one substituent selected from C_{1-6} alkanoyl C_{1-6} alkyl and optionally bears a further 1 or 2 substituents selected from C_{2-5} alkenyl, C_{2-5} alkynyl, C_{1-6} fluoroalkyl, C_{1-6} alkanoyl, C_{1-6} alkanoyl C_{1-6} alkyl, amino C_{1-6} alkanoyl, C_{1-4} alkylamino C_{1-6} alkanoyl, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkanoyl, C_{1-6} fluoroalkanoyl, carbamoyl, C_{1-4} alkylcarbamoyl, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)carbamoyl, carbamoyl C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkylcarbamoyl C_{1-6} alkyl, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)carbamoyl C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-6} fluoroalkylsulphonyl, oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4} cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkoxy C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkylsulphonyl C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4} aminoalkyl, C_{1-4} alkylamino, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, C_{1-4} alkylamino C_{1-4} alkyl, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkylamino C_{1-4} alkoxy, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino C_{1-4} alkoxy and a group $-(-O-)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_g ringD$ (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4} alkyl));
- 3) $C_{1-5}alkylW^1Q^2$ (wherein W^1 represents $-O-$, $-S-$, $-SO-$, $-SO_2-$, $-OC(O)-$, $-NQ^3C(O)-$, $-C(O)NQ^4-$, $-SO_2NQ^5-$, $-NQ^6SO_2-$ or $-NQ^7-$ (wherein Q^3 , Q^4 , Q^5 , Q^6 and Q^7 each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy C_{2-3} alkyl, C_{2-5} alkenyl, C_{2-5} alkynyl or C_{1-4} haloalkyl) and Q^2 is as defined herein);

- 4) $C_{1-5}alkylQ^2$ (wherein Q^2 is as defined herein);
- 5) $C_{2-5}alkenylQ^2$ (wherein Q^2 is as defined herein);
- 6) $C_{2-5}alkynylQ^2$ (wherein Q^2 is as defined herein);
- 7) $C_{1-4}alkylW^2C_{1-4}alkylQ^2$ (wherein W^2 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -NQ⁸C(O)-, -C(O)NQ⁹-, -SO₂NQ¹⁰-, -NQ¹¹SO₂- or -NQ¹²- (wherein Q^8 , Q^9 , Q^{10} , Q^{11} and Q^{12} each independently represents hydrogen, $C_{1-3}alkyl$, $C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl$, $C_{2-5}alkenyl$, $C_{2-5}alkynyl$ or $C_{1-4}haloalkyl$) and Q^2 is as defined herein);
- 8) $C_{2-5}alkenylW^2C_{1-4}alkylQ^2$ (wherein W^2 and Q^2 are as defined herein);
- 9) $C_{2-5}alkynylW^2C_{1-4}alkylQ^2$ (wherein W^2 and Q^2 are as defined herein);
- 10) $C_{1-4}alkylQ^{15}(C_{1-4}alkyl)_j(W^2)_kQ^{16}$ (wherein W^2 is as defined herein, j is 0 or 1, k is 0 or 1, and Q^{15} and Q^{16} are each independently selected from hydrogen, $C_{1-3}alkyl$, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl and a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which $C_{1-3}alkyl$ group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno and $C_{1-4}alkoxy$ and which cyclic group may bear either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or may bear 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from $C_{2-5}alkenyl$, $C_{2-5}alkynyl$, $C_{1-6}fluoroalkyl$, $C_{1-6}alkanoyl$, $C_{1-6}alkanoylC_{1-6}alkyl$, $aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl$, $C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl$, $di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl$, $C_{1-6}fluoroalkanoyl$, $carbamoyl$, $C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl$, $di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl$, $carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl$, $di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{1-6}alkylsulphonyl$, $C_{1-6}fluoroalkylsulphonyl$, oxo , $hydroxy$, $halogeno$, $cyano$, $C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl$, $C_{1-4}alkyl$, $C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl$, $C_{1-4}alkoxy$, $C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl$, $C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl$, $C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl$, $C_{1-4}aminoalkyl$, $C_{1-4}alkylamino$, $di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino$, $C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl$, $di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl$, $C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy$, $di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy$ and a group $-(O-)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_gringD$ (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from $C_{1-4}alkyl$), with the provisos that Q^{15} cannot be hydrogen and one or both of Q^{15} and Q^{16} must be a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group as defined herein which heterocyclic group bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears at least one substituent selected from $C_{1-6}alkanoylC_{1-6}alkyl$ and optionally bears 1 or 2 further substituents selected from those defined herein);

11) C₁₋₄alkylQ¹⁵C₁₋₄alkanoylQ¹⁶ⁿ wherein Q¹⁵ is as defined herein and is not hydrogen and Q¹⁶ⁿ is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group containing at least one nitrogen atom and optionally containing a further nitrogen atom wherein Q¹⁶ⁿ is linked to C₁₋₆alkanoyl through a nitrogen atom and wherein Q¹⁶ⁿ bears either one substituent
 5 selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from C₂₋₅alkenyl, C₂₋₅alkynyl, C₁₋₆fluoroalkyl, C₁₋₆alkanoyl, C₁₋₆alkanoylC₁₋₆alkyl, aminoC₁₋₆alkanoyl, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₆alkanoyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkanoyl, C₁₋₆fluoroalkanoyl, carbamoyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbamoyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoyl, carbamoylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbamoylC₁₋₆alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkylsulphonyl, C₁₋₆fluoroalkylsulphonyl, oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C₁₋₄cyanoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkoxyC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄aminoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkylamino, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkoxy, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkoxy and a group $-(O)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_gringD$ (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-
 10 membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C₁₋₄alkyl); with the proviso that one or both of Q¹⁵ and Q¹⁶ⁿ must be a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group as defined herein which heterocyclic group bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy
 15 to form a bicyclic ring, or bears at least one substituent selected from C₁₋₆alkanoylC₁₋₆alkyl and optionally bears 1 or 2 further substituents selected from those defined herein; and additionally wherein any C₁₋₅alkyl, C₂₋₅alkenyl or C₂₋₅alkynyl group in Q¹X¹ - which is linked to X¹ may bear one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno and amino); or a salt thereof.

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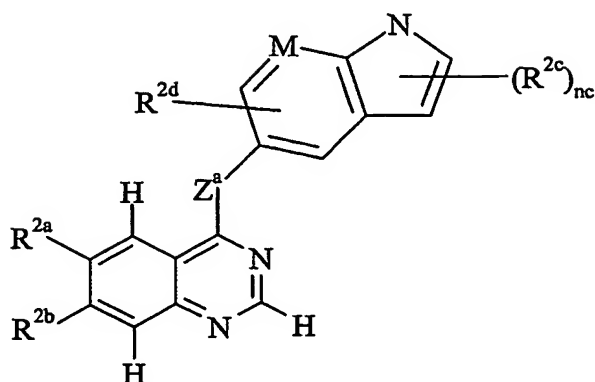
2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein ring C is a 9-10-membered heteroaromatic bicyclic moiety which contains 1 or 2 nitrogen atoms..

3. A compound according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein Z is -O- or -S-.

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4. A compound according to any one of claims 1-3 wherein R¹ represents methyl or fluoro.

5. A compound according to claim 1 of the formula IIb:



(IIb)

wherein:

M is -CH- or -N-;

15 nc is 0, 1 or 2;

R^{2c} is linked to a carbon atom of the 5-membered ring and is selected from hydrogen and methyl;

R^{2d} is linked to a carbon atom of the 6-membered ring and is selected from hydrogen and fluoro;

20 R^{2a} and R^{2b} are each independently selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkoxy, C_{1-3} alkylsulphanyl, $-NR^{3a}R^{4a}$ (wherein R^{3a} and R^{4a} , which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl), and Q^1X^1 wherein Q^1 and X^1 are as defined in claim 1;

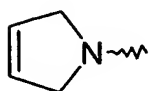
Z^a is -O- or -S-;

25 with the proviso that at least one of R^{2a} and R^{2b} is Q^1X^1 wherein Q^1 and X^1 are as defined in claim 1;

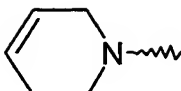
or a salt thereof.

6. A compound according to claim 5 wherein one of R^{2a} and R^{2b} is methoxy and the other
30 is Q^1X^1 wherein X^1 is -O- and Q^1 is selected from one of the following groups:

1) C_{1-4} alkyl- Q^{13} -C(O)- C_{1-4} alkyl- Q^{14} wherein Q^{13} and Q^{14} are each independently selected from pyrrolidiny, piperidiny, piperazinyl,

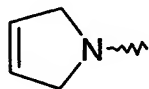


and

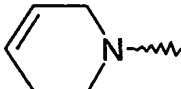


wherein Q^{14} is linked to C_{1-6} alkanoyl through a nitrogen atom;

2) Q^2 (wherein Q^2 is a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group selected from pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl,



and

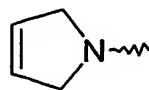


which heterocyclic group bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears at least one substituent selected from C_{2-4} alkanoyl C_{1-3} alkyl and optionally bears a further 1 or 2 substituents selected from C_{2-5} alkenyl, C_{2-5} alkynyl, C_{1-6} fluoroalkyl, C_{1-6} alkanoyl, C_{2-4} alkanoyl C_{1-3} alkyl, amino C_{1-6} alkanoyl, C_{1-4} alkylamino C_{1-6} alkanoyl, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkanoyl, C_{1-6} fluoroalkanoyl, carbamoyl, C_{1-4} alkylcarbamoyl, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)carbamoyl, carbamoyl C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkylcarbamoyl C_{1-6} alkyl, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)carbamoyl C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-6} fluoroalkylsulphonyl, oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4} cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkoxy C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkylsulphonyl C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4} aminoalkyl, C_{1-4} alkylamino, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, C_{1-4} alkylamino C_{1-4} alkyl, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkylamino C_{1-4} alkoxy, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino C_{1-4} alkoxy and a group $-(O)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_g$ ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4} alkyl));

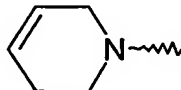
3) C_{1-5} alkyl Q^2 (wherein Q^2 is as defined herein);

4) C_{1-4} alkyl W^2C_{1-4} alkyl Q^2 (wherein W^2 is as defined in claim 1 and Q^2 is as defined herein);

5) C_{1-4} alkyl $Q^{15}(C_{1-4}alkyl)_j(W^2)_kQ^{16}$ (wherein W^2 is as defined in claim 1, j is 0 or 1, k is 0 or 1, and Q^{15} and Q^{16} are each independently selected from a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group selected from pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl,



and



which heterocyclic group may bear either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or may bear 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from C_{2-}

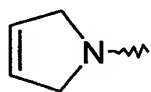
₅alkenyl, C₂₋₅alkynyl, C₁₋₆fluoroalkyl, C₁₋₆alkanoyl, C₂₋₄alkanoylC₁₋₃alkyl, aminoC₁₋₆alkanoyl, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₆alkanoyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkanoyl, C₁₋₆fluoroalkanoyl, carbamoyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbamoyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoyl, carbamoylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbamoylC₁₋₆alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkylsulphonyl, C₁₋₆fluoroalkylsulphonyl, oxo, hydroxy,

5 halogeno, cyano, C₁₋₄cyanoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkoxyC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄aminoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkylamino, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkoxy, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkoxy and a group $-(O)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_g$ ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with

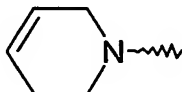
10 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C₁₋₄alkyl), with the proviso one or both of Q¹⁵ and Q¹⁶ must be a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group as defined herein which heterocyclic group bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears at least one substituent selected from C₂₋₄alkanoylC₁₋₃alkyl and optionally bears 1 or

15 2 further substituents selected from those defined herein);

6) C₁₋₄alkylQ¹⁵C₁₋₄alkanoylQ¹⁶ⁿ wherein Q¹⁵ is as defined herein and Q¹⁶ⁿ is a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group selected from pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl,



and



wherein Q¹⁶ⁿ is linked to C₁₋₆alkanoyl through a nitrogen atom and wherein Q¹⁶ⁿ bears either

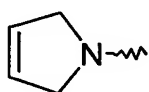
20 one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from C₂₋₅alkenyl, C₂₋₅alkynyl, C₁₋₆fluoroalkyl, C₁₋₆alkanoyl, C₂₋₄alkanoylC₁₋₃alkyl, aminoC₁₋₆alkanoyl, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₆alkanoyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkanoyl, C₁₋₆fluoroalkanoyl, carbamoyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbamoyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoyl, carbamoylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylcarbamoylC₁₋₆alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkylsulphonyl, C₁₋₆fluoroalkylsulphonyl, oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C₁₋₄cyanoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄hydroxyalkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkoxyC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonylC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄aminoalkyl, C₁₋₄alkylamino, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkyl, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkylaminoC₁₋₄alkoxy, di(C₁₋₄alkyl)aminoC₁₋₄alkoxy and a group $-(O)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_g$ ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0

25 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear

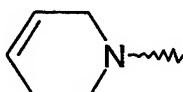
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one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4} alkyl); with the proviso that one or both of Q^{15} and Q^{16n} must be a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group as defined herein which heterocyclic group bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears at least one substituent selected from C_{2-4} alkanoyl C_{1-3} alkyl and optionally bears 1 or 2 further substituents selected from those defined herein; and additionally wherein any C_{1-5} alkyl, C_{2-5} alkenyl or C_{2-5} alkynyl group in Q^1X^1 - which is linked to X^1 may bear one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno and amino).

7. A compound according to claim 5 wherein one of R^{2a} and R^{2b} is methoxy and the other is Q^1X^1 wherein X^1 is -O- and Q^1 is C_{1-4} alkyl- Q^{13} -C(O)- C_{1-4} alkyl- Q^{14} wherein Q^{13} and Q^{14} are each independently selected from pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl,



and

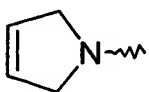


wherein Q^{14} is linked to C_{1-6} alkanoyl through a nitrogen atom.

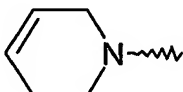
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8. A compound according to claim 5 wherein one of R^{2a} and R^{2b} is methoxy and the other is Q^1X^1 wherein X^1 is -O- and Q^1 is selected from one of the following groups:

1) Q^2 (wherein Q^2 is a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group selected from pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl,



and



which heterocyclic group bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears one substituent selected from C_{2-4} alkanoyl C_{1-3} alkyl; and

2) C_{1-5} alkyl Q^2 (wherein Q^2 is as defined herein).

25

9. A compound according to claim 7 or claim 8 wherein R^{2a} is methoxy.

10. A compound according to claim 1 selected from:

- 7- {[1-(acetylmethyl)piperidin-4-yl]methoxy}-6-methoxy-4-[(3-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]quinazoline,
- 7- {[1-(acetylmethyl)piperidin-4-yl]methoxy}-6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-6-yl)oxy]quinazoline,
- 5 7- {[1-(acetylmethyl)piperidin-4-yl]methoxy}-6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]quinazoline,
- 6-methoxy-4-[(3-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-7- {[1-(pyrrolidin-1-ylacetyl)piperidin-4-yl]methoxy} quinazoline,
- 6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-6-yl)oxy]-7- {[1-(pyrrolidin-1-ylacetyl)piperidin-4-
- 10 yl]methoxy} quinazoline,
- 6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-7- {[1-(pyrrolidin-1-ylacetyl)piperidin-4-yl]methoxy} quinazoline,
- 6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-7-[2-(tetrahydro-5*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*c*]pyrrol-5-yl)ethoxy]quinazoline,
- 15 6-methoxy-4-[(3-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-7-[2-(tetrahydro-5*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*c*]pyrrol-5-yl)ethoxy]quinazoline,
- 4-[(2,3-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-6-methoxy-7-[2-(tetrahydro-5*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*c*]pyrrol-5-yl)ethoxy]quinazoline,
- 4-[(4-fluoro-2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-6-methoxy-7-[2-(tetrahydro-5*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-
- 20 *c*]pyrrol-5-yl)ethoxy]quinazoline,
- 7- {2-[4-(acetylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]ethoxy}-4-[(2,3-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-6-methoxyquinazoline,
- 7- {2-[4-(acetylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]ethoxy}-6-methoxy-4-[(3-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]quinazoline,
- 25 7- {2-[4-(acetylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]ethoxy}-6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]quinazoline,
- 7- {2-[4-(acetylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]ethoxy}-4-[(4-fluoro-2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-6-methoxyquinazoline,
- 6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-7- {2-[4-(pyrrolidin-1-ylacetyl)piperazin-1-
- 30 yl]ethoxy} quinazoline,
- 7- {[1-(acetylmethyl)piperidin-4-yl]oxy}-6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-6-yl)oxy]quinazoline,

7-[[1-(acetylmethyl)piperidin-4-yl]oxy]-6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]quinazoline,

7-[[1-(acetylmethyl)piperidin-4-yl]oxy]-4-[(4-fluoro-2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-6-methoxyquinazoline,

5 or a salt thereof.

11. A compound according to claim 1 selected from:

4-[(4-fluoro-2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-6-methoxy-7-[2-(tetrahydro-5*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*c*]pyrrol-5-yl)ethoxy]quinazoline,

10 7-{2-[4-(acetylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]ethoxy}-6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]quinazoline,

7-{2-[4-(acetylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]ethoxy}-4-[(4-fluoro-2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-6-methoxyquinazoline,

or a salt thereof.

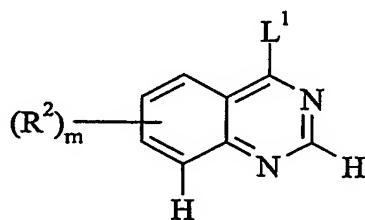
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12. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

13. A process for the preparation of a compound according to claim 1 of the formula I or

20 salt thereof which comprises:

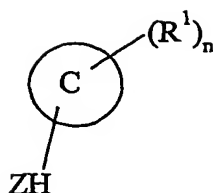
(a) the reaction of a compound of the formula III:



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(III)

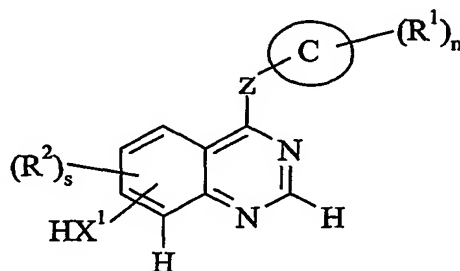
30 (wherein R^2 and m are as defined in claim 1 and L^1 is a displaceable moiety), with a compound of the formula IV:



(IV)

(wherein ring C, R^1 , Z and n are as defined in claim 1) optionally followed by the addition of a substituent on a heterocyclic ring of R^1 or R^2 ;

(b) for compounds of formula I and salts thereof wherein at least one R^2 is R^5X^1 or Q^1X^1 wherein R^5 and Q^1 are as defined in claim 1, and X^1 is -O-, -S-, -OC(O)- or -NR¹⁰- (wherein R^{10} independently represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl) the reaction of a compound of the formula V:



(V)

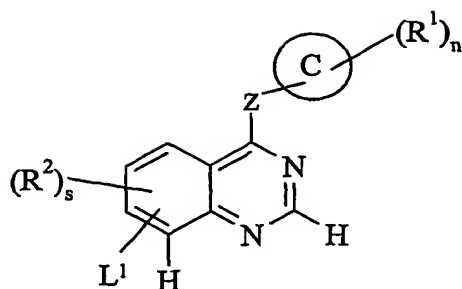
(wherein ring C, Z, R^1 , R^2 and n are as defined in claim 1 and X^1 is as defined in this section and s is an integer from 0 to 2) with one of the compounds of the formulae VIa-b:



(wherein R^5 and Q^1 are as defined in claim 1 and L^1 is as defined herein);

(c) for compounds of the formula I and salts thereof wherein at least one R^2 is R^5X^1 or Q^1X^1 wherein R^5 and Q^1 are as defined in claim 1, and X^1 is -O-, -S-, -OC(O)- or -NR¹⁰- (wherein R^{10} represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl or C₁₋₃alkoxyC₂₋₃alkyl) the reaction of a

compound of the formula VII:



(VII)

with one of the compounds of the formulae VIIIa-b:



(wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^5 , Q^1 , ring C, Z and n are as defined in claim 1, L^1 and s are as defined herein and X^1 is as defined in this section;

(d) for compounds of the formula I and salts thereof wherein at least one R^2 is R^5X^1 or Q^1X^1 wherein X^1 is as defined in claim 1, R^5 is $C_{1-3}\text{alkyl}R^{113}$, wherein R^{113} is selected from

one of the following nine groups:

1) $X^{19}C_{1-3}\text{alkyl}$ (wherein X^{19} represents -O-, -S-, -SO₂-, -NR¹¹⁴C(O)- or -NR¹¹⁵SO₂- (wherein R^{114} and R^{115} which may be the same or different are each hydrogen, $C_{1-3}\text{alkyl}$ or $C_{1-3}\text{alkoxy}C_{2-3}\text{alkyl}$);

2) NR¹¹⁶R¹¹⁷ (wherein R^{116} and R^{117} which may be the same or different are each hydrogen, $C_{1-3}\text{alkyl}$ or $C_{1-3}\text{alkoxy}C_{2-3}\text{alkyl}$);

3) $X^{20}C_{1-3}\text{alkyl}X^5R^{22}$ (wherein X^{20} represents -O-, -S-, -SO₂-, -NR¹¹⁸C(O)-, -NR¹¹⁹SO₂- or -NR¹²⁰- (wherein R^{118} , R^{119} , and R^{120} which may be the same or different are each hydrogen, $C_{1-3}\text{alkyl}$ or $C_{1-3}\text{alkoxy}C_{2-3}\text{alkyl}$) and X^5 and R^{22} are as defined in claim 1);

4) R^{28} (wherein R^{28} is as defined in claim 1);

5) $X^{21}R^{29}$ (wherein X^{21} represents -O-, -S-, -SO₂-, -NR¹²¹C(O)-, -NR¹²²SO₂-, or -NR¹²³- (wherein R^{121} , R^{122} , and R^{123} which may be the same or different are each hydrogen, $C_{1-3}\text{alkyl}$ or $C_{1-3}\text{alkoxy}C_{2-3}\text{alkyl}$) and R^{29} is as defined in claim 1);

6) $X^{22}C_{1-3}\text{alkyl}R^{29}$ (wherein X^{22} represents -O-, -S-, -SO₂-, -NR¹²⁴C(O)-, -NR¹²⁵SO₂- or -NR¹²⁶- (wherein R^{124} , R^{125} and R^{126} each independently represents hydrogen, $C_{1-3}\text{alkyl}$ or $C_{1-3}\text{alkoxy}C_{2-3}\text{alkyl}$) and R^{29} is as defined in claim 1);

7) R^{29} (wherein R^{29} is as defined in claim 1);

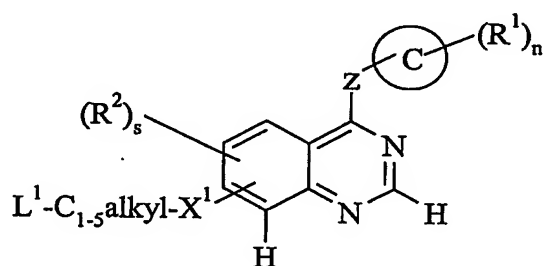
8) $X^{22}C_{1-4}\text{alkyl}R^{28}$ (wherein X^{22} and R^{28} are as defined in claim 1); and

9) $R^{54}(C_{1-4}\text{alkyl})_q(X^9)_rR^{55}$ (wherein q, r, X^9 , R^{54} and R^{55} are as defined in claim 1);

Q^1 is $C_{1-5}alkylQ^{27}$ wherein Q^{27} is selected from one of the following six groups:

- 1) $Q^{13}-C(O)-C_{1-4}alkylQ^{14}$ (wherein Q^{13} and Q^{14} are as defined in claim 1);
- 2) W^1Q^2 (wherein W^1 and Q^2 are as defined in claim 1);
- 3) Q^2 (wherein Q^2 is as defined in claim 1);
- 4) $W^2C_{1-4}alkylQ^2$ (wherein W^2 and Q^2 are as defined in claim 1);
- 5) $Q^{15}(C_{1-4}alkyl)_j(W^2)_kQ^{16}$ (wherein W^2 , j , k , Q^{15} and Q^{16} are as defined in claim 1);
- 6) $Q^{15}C_{1-4}alkanoylQ^{16n}$ (wherein Q^{15} and Q^{16n} are as defined in claim 1);

the reaction of a compound of the formula IX:



(IX)

(wherein X^1 , R^1 , R^2 , ring C, Z and n are as defined in claim 1 and L^1 and s are as defined herein) with one of the compounds of the formulae Xa-b:



(wherein R^{113} and Q^{27} are as defined herein) optionally followed by the addition of a substituent on a heterocyclic ring of R^1 or R^2 ;

and when a salt of a compound of formula I is required, reaction of the compound obtained with an acid or base whereby to obtain the desired salt.

14. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of the formula I as defined in claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient or carrier.

15. Use of a compound of the formula I as defined in claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the production of an antiangiogenic and/or vascular permeability reducing effect in a warm-blooded animal.

16. A method for producing an antiangiogenic and/or vascular permeability reducing effect in a warm-blooded animal, such as a human being, in need of such treatment which comprises administering to said animal an effective amount of a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.